

PRICE { In St. Louis, One Cent.
Outside St. Louis, Two Cents
Per Dozen, Three Cents.

RUSSIAN FLEET SIGHTED NORTH OF SINGAPORE

Republican hopes had fallen to the zero point when the official canvass and compilation had been completed in twenty-two wards by the Board of Election Commissioners shortly after 9 o'clock last night, confirming the election of James Hagerman Jr., Democratic candidate, to the collectorship.

REPUBLICAN SPECIAL.

Jefferson City, Mo., April 7.—Governor Folik is in communication with the police and Excise authorities of St. Louis on the subject of the enforcement of the law regarding the closing of saloons on Sunday. The saloons of Kansas City are already under closing orders, and the regulations will be put in force in St. Louis—probably next Sunday (to-morrow) and certainly not later than Sunday, April 14, as announced in The Republic this morning. Governor Folik to-night made the following statement:

It is not a question of Sunday opening or Sunday closing, but a question of law. The law says that drinkshops must not operate on Sunday. If this is a bad law the remedy is to repeal it, not to ignore it. It may not be to the liking of some, nevertheless, it is the law. Shall the law be observed or shall the law be broken? Good citizens, whatever their opinion on Sunday closing as an original proposition, cannot ask that the law be violated. "It is the law" is sufficient for the law-abiding, and it makes no difference what the others think.

As long as I am Governor and have the power to do it, the law is going to be enforced as far as I am able to do so. That is what I premised; that is my purpose. We are told that public sentiment in St. Louis will not sustain the enforcement of this law. Public sentiment may think the law is not good, but I have too much respect for the people of St. Louis to believe the public sentiment there demands that any law be violated. St. Louis is a law-abiding city, not a law-breaking city. I know that public sentiment there is in favor of the enforcement of the law. That has already been demonstrated. But public officials do not swear to support public sentiment; they do swear to support the law.

SEA FIGHT MAY BE IMMINENT

**SUNDAY CLOSING ORDER MAY
GO INTO EFFECT TO-MORROW**

Governor Folk Makes Clear to Excise Commissioner and Police Officials of St. Louis That Their Duty Is to Enforce the Law They Find It—Closing Certainly Will Not Be Deferred Long Than April 16—Mulvihill Says He Will Carry Out Governor's Wishes and His Sworn Duty in Every Particular.

TASK OF ENFORCEMENT WILL FALL FIRST UPON THE POLICE

H. P. Hilliard Will Be Vice President and L. A. Battaile Cashier—Capital \$2,000,000 With Deposits \$25,000,000.

From reliable authority it is learned that negotiations have been completed

at No. 20 North Broadway will be va-

Waiker Hill, president of the American Exchange National, will be president of

banks, and Ephron Catlin and W. J. Kin-

consolidated banks. The boards of both banks will be united to form one board.

L. A. Battalie, cashier of the American Exchange National, will be cashier of the Mechanics'-American Exchange National, and it is stated that all officers of both banks will be retained.

The capitalization of the new bank will be \$2,000,000, and it will have a surplus of \$500,000, with total deposits of \$25,000,000. The Mechanics' National now has a capital of \$2,000,000, while the American Exchange has a capital of \$400,000. It is stated that an arrangement has been

stated that an arrangement has been made by which the united capitals shall be \$2,000,000, though the terms of the consolidation are withheld.

EVENT IN FINANCES.

The consolidation of two such banks as the American Exchange and the Merchant will be regarded as quite an event.

the American Exchange and the Mechanics' will be regarded as quite an event in the financial history of St. Louis, especially since the newly formed institution will continue to be under the guidance of Mr. Hill and Mr. Hilliard, both of whom have had wide banking experience and are regarded as leaders among the most

Mr. Hill is from Virginia, where he learned banking under one of the ablest

Both the Mechanics' and American Exchange banks have been eminently successful, and it is believed that the consolidation of the two will do much to add to the fame of St. Louis as a great and substantial financial center.

The American Exchange Bank, which recently became a national bank, is capitalised at \$500,000, has deposits of \$6,553,464, and surplus and undivided profits of \$909,627. It pays quarterly dividends of 3 per cent and its stock, which has a book

The Mechanics' National has capital of \$2,000,000, a surplus and undivided profits of \$2,512,000, and deposits of \$7,567,212. It also pays dividends of 3 per cent quarterly, and the book value of its stock is

terly, and the book value of its stock is \$236. Recently heavy purchases, combined with excellent showing made by the bank, have advanced its stock to \$230.

While neither Mr. Hill nor Mr. Hilliard would admit that the consolidation has taken place, both declining to discuss the subject, it is understood that matters

taken place, both beginning to discuss the subject. It is understood that matters have progressed to a point where the actual moving by the American Exchange into the Merchants' National will be begun in a few days, probably early next week.

BALLOON CROSSES CHANNEL.
Successful Passage From Eng-
land in Three Hours.
Calais, April 7.—Jacques Faure's balloon.

Calais, April 7.—Jacques Faure's balloon, which left Folkestone, England, at 11 p. m. yesterday, made a successful passage of the channel, landing near Calais at 3 o'clock this morning.

but was not injured, and its three occupants were in good health and spirits when they landed.

from Hangoon, reported that she passed on March 19, thirty warships and fourteen colliers (probably the Russian fleet) steaming eastward, 20 miles northeast of

Dart.
NEBOGATOFF'S DIVISION OF

Jibuti, Gulf of Aden, March 7.—Vice Admiral Nebogatoff's division of the Russian

**LONDON EXPRESS THINKS
FLEET NEAR SINGAPORE**

Nothing definite has been heard since March 15, when Admiral Rojestvensky

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